

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMA KO 00708 141302 Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IGA-02 RSR-01 RSC-01 /023 W

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R 131545 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6770

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 0708

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (T E X T)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: LIVESTOCK STUDY

FOR AF/ W AMBASSADOR BLAKE FROM CHARGE

1. THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED TO LEARN FINDINGS OF LATEST HENRY/ MORRIS TRIP. ACCORDING TO HENRY, ADO HAD FOLLOWING THREE RESERVATIONS OVER SEGOU " RANCH" SITE: 1) LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF WATER; 2) DIFFICULTY IN CONTROLLING NOMADIC GRAZING; AND 3) DISTANCE OVER WHICH COTTON SEED WOULD HAVE TO BE HAULED. MALIANS NOW BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT FED WILL GO AHEAD AT NIONO AND THAT THIS SITE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR OUR PURPOSES. HENRY THEREFORE STUDIED THREE ALTERNATE SITES THIS PAST WEEK. FIRST AREA, AT KAYA, CONTAINS 80,000 HECTARES, BUT WATER IS NON- EXISTENT AWAY FROM RIVER, AND THAT STRETCH OF SITE WHICH IS ALONG RIVER NOW IS HEAVILY CULTIVATED IN VEGETABLES. A SECOND AREA, AT KENIKOU, HAS LATERITE SOIL UNSUITABLE FOR FEEDING. A THIRD AREA, AT DOUKOULOMA, NEAR TOUNA, HAS 10,600 HECTARES ALONG RIVER, WITH READY ACCESS TO COTTON SEED. ONLY MAIN RESERVATION SEEMS TO BE TYPE OF UNPALATABLE GRASS NOW GROWING THERE, WHICH HAS TO BE CONTROLLED. TSE-TSE REGULATION ALSO NECESSARY, BUT MALIANS AND HENRY FEEL THAT CLEARING LAND IN ITSELF WILL ACCOMPLISH MUCH. NOR IS HENRY WORRIED ABOUT FLOODING. ACCORDINGLY, HENRY WILL RECOMMEND STARTING WITH 2,000 HEAD OF CATTLE AT THAT SITE.

2. HENRY ALSO LOOKED AT SOMBEPEC HOLDING AREA, ON ROAD TO KOULIKORO.

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WHILE AREA IS LIMITED TO ONLY 2,500 HECTARES, COTTONSEED FEEDING WOULD BE IDEAL. LOT COULD HOLD CATTLE FROM LOCAL TRADERS AND HERDERS, WHO WOULD PAY FOR SERVICES. ITS CAPACITY WOULD BE 600-1800 HEAD, DEPENDING UPON THEIR LENGTH OF STAY, WHICH COULD BE UP TO 6 MONTHS.

3. HENRY IS NOW IN ABIDJAN TO WORK ON FINAL PAPER, WHICH HE PROMISES WE WILL SEE BEFORE IT GOES TO WASHINGTON. HENRY FEELS CHANCES ARE GOOD OF PROJECT BEING APPROVED, BUT HE IS CONCERNED, AS I AM, ABOUT COMPARATIVELY LOW PERCENTAGE OF GRANT AS AGAINST LOAN FUNDING TO BE PROPOSED. REGARDS.
KATZEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BAMAKO00708
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730326/aaaahpuz.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971126
Subject: LIVESTOCK STUDY
TAGS: EAID
To: AF
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005